

CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method of searching a database of data elements, the method comprising: generating a search query to identify a first set of one or more data elements in the database, based on the first set, identifying a second set of one or more data elements in the database, where the data elements of the second set are related to one or more of the data elements of the first set, and generating data based on the data elements of the first and second sets and the relationships therebetween.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein generating a search query includes: receiving search data from the user, based on the search data, generating the search query.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein generating a search query includes: determining one or more keywords based on the search data, and generating the search query including the one or more keywords.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein generating a search query includes: generating the search query using a grid having first and second axes based on the one or more keywords.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising: coalescing the first set of data elements to include unique data elements.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data elements of the second set are related to one or more of the data elements of the first set based on time.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the data elements of the second set are related to one or more of the data elements of the first set based on one or more references.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the references are based on the content of one or more of the data elements of the first set and the data elements of the second set.
9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the references include one or more of citations and HTML links.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying a second set of one or more data elements includes: determining whether one or more of the one or more data elements of the first set include one or more references to one or more other data elements, and identifying a second set of one or more data elements based on the references.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying a second set of data elements includes: determining whether one or more data elements in the database include one or more references to the data elements of the first set, and identifying a second set of one or more data elements based on the references.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising: providing the generated data to one or more of a user and a display.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising: graphically displaying the data elements of the first and second sets and the relationships therebetween.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising: receiving from the user a selection of a data element, and based on the selection, graphically displaying the contents of the data element.
15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the data elements are represented by geometric shapes and wherein the relationships are represented by lines between geometric shapes.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising: determining locations at which to display the geometric shapes and the lines to reduce overlaps between geometric shapes and crossings between lines.

17-27. (withdrawn)

28. (Original) A processor program for searching a database of data elements, the processor program being stored on a processor readable medium and including instructions operable to cause a processor to: generate a search query to identify a first set of one or more data elements in the database, based on the first set, identify a second set of one or more data elements in the database, where the data elements of the second set are related to one or more of the data elements of the first set, and generate data based on the data elements of the first and second sets and the relationships therebetween.

29. (Original) The processor program of claim 28, wherein the data elements of the second set are related to one or more of the data elements of the first set based on time.

30. (Original) The processor program of claim 28, wherein the data elements of the second set are related to one or more of the data elements of the first set based on one or more references.

31. (Original) The processor program of claim 30, wherein the references are based on the content of one or more of the data elements of the first set and the data elements of the second set.

32. (Original) The processor program of claim 30, wherein the references include one or more of citations and HTML links.

33. (Original) The processor program of claim 28, further comprising instructions to: provide the generated data to one or more of a user and a display.

34. (Original) The processor program of claim 28, further comprising instructions to: graphically display the data elements of the first and second sets and the relationships therebetween.

35. (Original) The processor program of claim 34, wherein the data elements are represented by geometric shapes and wherein the relationships are represented by lines between geometric shapes.

36. (Original) The processor program of claim 35, further comprising instructions to: determine locations at which to display the geometric shapes and the lines to reduce overlaps between geometric shapes and crossings between lines.

37-41. (withdrawn)